

It is claimed:

1. A computer-implemented method for integrating video data with a document object that includes document elements, comprising the steps of:

(a) synchronizing the video data with at least one of the document elements so as to form at least one synchronization association, said synchronization association interrelating an activity of the video data with an activity of the document object;

(b) generating a synchronization file that includes the synchronization association;

and

(c) associating the synchronization file with the video data so that the activity involving the video data appears on a computer-human display as integrated with the document object through the use of the synchronization association.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, wherein the synchronization file associated with the video clip allows the activity involving the video data to appear on the computer-human display as integrated with the web page.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the document object is a web page that contains a background, wherein the synchronization file associated with the video clip allows the activity involving the video data to appear on the computer-human display as integrated with the web page's background.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the web page's background is a virtual web page background.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein the web page's background is a real web page background.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, wherein the video data is integrated into a web page in such a way that extraneous background of the web page is substantially hidden from view while the video data is played on the computer-human display.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, wherein the video data is integrated into a web page in such a way that a media player running the video data is substantially hidden from view while the video data is played on the computer-human display.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, wherein the video data is integrated into a web page in such a way that a media player running the video data is completely hidden from view while the video data is played on the computer-human display.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, wherein the synchronization association allows the activity involving the video to be activated based upon the activity associated with the document object.
10. The method of claim 9 wherein the activity associated with the web page is selection of a line of text appearing on the web page, wherein the synchronization association allows the activity involving the video to be activated based upon the selection of the line of text.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, wherein the synchronization association allows the activity involving the web page to be activated based upon the activity associated with the video data.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the activity associated with the video data is the video data reaching a preselected time during playing of the video data, wherein the synchronization association allows the activity involving the web page to be activated based upon the activity associated with the video data.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the activity involving the web page is a display of at least one line of text.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

synchronizing the video data with a second web page element so as to form a second synchronization association,

said second synchronization association interrelating a second activity of the video data with a second activity of the web page, wherein the synchronization file includes the second synchronization association,

wherein the second association activity associated with the video data is the video data reaching a second preselected time during playing of the video data, wherein the second synchronization association allows the second activity involving the web page to be activated based upon the second activity associated with the video data.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the second activity involving the web page is a display of a second line of text.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the document object is a web page, said method further comprising the step of:

preprocessing the video data before the video is synchronized at said step (a).

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the preprocessing of the video data includes preprocessing the video data through a chromakey process to remove a colored screen background and replace it with the web page's background.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the preprocessing of the video data includes the video data being cropped and resized.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the preprocessing of the video data includes compressing the video data, and using the compressed video data in the synchronizing of the video data with a document element during said step (a).

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the preprocessing of the video data includes using the video data in an uncompressed format so that quality adjustments to the video data may be performed.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the synchronization file is associated with the video data in an uncompressed format such that the synchronization association within the synchronization file becomes part of the file that contains the video data.

22. The method of claim 1 wherein the video data is formatted to be played on the computer-human display through a multi-media video player.

23. The method of claim 1 wherein a client computer is hosting the document object, wherein a video clip is selected from a plurality of video clips having differing formats, said selection being based upon the client computer's configuration, said selected video clip being provided along with the associated synchronization file to the client computer so that the video clip may be played on the client computer.

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